HAPPY DAZE

The Newsletter of ConFusion, the 2021 Eastercon

Welcome to ConFusion!

Hello and welcome to ConFusion 2021. We are very excited to share with you our vision for what an in person yet virtual convention would look like. We have a wonderful art show and a great dealers room. There are not 1 but 2 bars and a games room. We have 7 streams of great programmes for you to peruse and you may want to take a peek into the *Heart of Gold* to see where in time and space it happens to be. We have four days of surprises, diversions, fun and whimsy. We hope you enjoy this flight of fancy aboard our spaceship *The ConFusion*! Welcome aboard!

—Vanessa / Incognito

Overheard at Eastercon #1

"Why isn't the convention starting till 4pm? Apparently it's to allow for the Bank Holiday traffic getting onto the Internet."

Saturday is Hall Costume Day

We want you to amaze us with your cosplay and *haute couture* on Saturday. This is your chance to dress up to the deep space nines and send us your selfies for the newsletter.

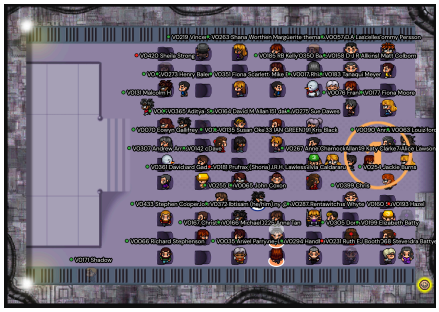
Streaming with the Stars

Programme participants should be getting an email with the instructions for accessing their programme items. If you haven't got it yet, please go to the Green Room (at the top right hand corner of the party rooms) about half an hour before your item and they'll sort you out.

TAFF Incoming

Your 2020 Transatlantic Fan Fund delegate, "Orange Mike" Lowrey, is registered and will be here all weekend. Should he try to come over from the States for Novacon and traditional TAFF delegate visits this autumn, or is that unlikely to be permitted?
Sadly, none of the newsletter team has a functioning time machine. If any other con member does, could you nip forward to November and check for him please?

Traditional Photo from Opening Ceremony



This will never get old

Live-Action Warm Avatar Count

You can see how many people are in Gather at any given time in the bottom left hand corner of your screen. At the moment it's 177...178...

Overheard in Pre-con

"OK, so yesterday I had two panels scheduled at the same time. I emailed Programming, they said not to worry.

Today I have three panels scheduled at the same time.

And before you wits make the obvious joke, no, none of them is the time-travel panel."

—Fiona Moore, now sorted by heroic programme team

Armadillos Assemble

The Glasgow in 2024 Worldcon bid is filling ConFusion with armadillos. There are armadillos in the art show, an armadillo craft and curl-up in the party room, and a general party at 7pm on Saturday night.

We hope there will be a prize for the best cocktail recipe that can reasonably be called an Armadillo. Come to their fan table to learn about what Glasgow has to do with armadillos anyway.

Win Glorious Rewards

Confusion is rewarding all its volunteers. If you do a shift, you will get a badge; anyone who does ten hours will get a t-shirt. In the post obviously.

Time Travel Workshop #1

People outside the UK may find that the programme at *guide.confusion2021.uk* may show items as having already happened when they haven't. Although all items are at their correct times in British Summer Time, the guide very cleverly tries to show you only upcoming items in your local time. Look for past items if you're ahead of BST.

Mute to Watch Programme in Gather

If you're not wearing headphones in Gather programme items then you'll need to mute, or everyone will hear echoes of whatever you're hearing. Headphones are probably best.

Ghosting, Dancing, and Tracking

Hot gather tips:
Press **G** to move through those annoying people (but not objects) who are getting in your way. Press **Z** to dance appreciatively. You can search for people in the participants list and then 'locate' or 'follow' them to find them and go with them to places. Make sure they'd appreciate this. If you aren't the sort of person who would shout in a crowded bar then please think very carefully before using *@everyone* chat.

If arrow keys are hard or you're left-handed, the WASD keys also work as navigation keys in Gather.

The convention has a full guide to Gather at *https://confusion2021.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/ConFusion-2021-Guide-to-GatherTown.pdf*

NewCon Press Book Launch

At 1:30pm Saturday you can hear GoH Nicola Abnett talk about her stunning new novel *The Wipe*, Liz Williams introducing you to the wonders of her magical novel *Blackthorn Winter*, and Ian Watson hint at what Hitler's Angel of Death was really up to while in hiding for all those decades, as described in his novella *The Monster, the Mermaid, and Doctor Mengele*.

—Ian Whates

10 Ways to Have Fun at a Virtual Con

1. Attend seven different programme streams at once in tabs!
2. Volunteer by emailing *volunteers @confusion2021.uk.*
3. Ordering in your Full English Breakfast.
4. Running screaming through as many small gather conversations as possible (especially for toddlers).
5. Visit both the trashy bar, the Cantina, and the classy bar, the 21 Forward.
10. Spend the entire con snarking in the newsletter room. *[So no change there then —Ed.]*

Why is this Newsletter called *Happy Daze* and who is our Ayyylien?

Ask your grandad.

Dazed and Confused: This issue was produced by Alison Scott, with help from Mike Scott, Steve Davies, Marianne Cain and Steven Cain and without printing from Jan van't Ent. Official Convention Oversight by Diana "Big Brother" ben-Aaron. Masthead by Alison Scott with art by Sue Mason. Ayyylien joke by España Sheriff. This newsletter has officially jumped the shark. I cannot believe how accurately we've recreated the ambience of the first day of the Eastercon! That 45 minute delay was on point!
Mail us at *newsletter@confusion2021.uk*. *Now with clickable links*!

HAPPY DAZE

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Committee Statement

We are aware that people were affected by a number of technical difficulties yesterday. Thank you for your patience as the team has worked diligently through the night to resolve them. We are looking forward to a (hopefully problem-free) day two packed with whimsical and fun programming and events. Have a fantastic day!

—The Committee

Tips & Tricks

Here are the things that I found most useful to learn during the first day:

The Green Room and the reading rooms aren't shown on the map. They are next to the party rooms, and are signposted on the floor when you get there.

If you didn't receive your email about the programme platform, you can go to *programme.confusion2021.uk* to log in, and then use the 'forgot password' link with the email address that you used when you signed up for the convention.

—Catriona

Call for Moderators

The academic track needs academic moderators for almost all sessions on Saturday, Sunday and Monday. In particular, they'd like a volunteer who identifies as 'queer' and/or 'of colour', and a person who has an appreciation for or understanding of Visual Art (these are for two different items on Sunday).

The role involves introducing the speaker, and curating questions and comments received from the audience. It may well be possible to combine this with the Programme Ops role for any particular Academic Track session.

Any assistance would be appreciated, and you can email Anne-Louise Fortune, the academic track coordinator at: *programme@confusion2021.uk*.

—Anne-Louise Fortune

Art Show

The *Art Show* is up and running and has had some great feedback. Please visit if you haven't already done so and don't forget the art is also for sale through the mini laptops in the Art Show room foyer. There is some fantastic art ready for you to buy and prices include postage within the UK. For outside the UK, please check with the artist or the Art Show staff.

We're just off the main Hangar area and opposite the Dealers. Serena is mostly lurking in the Art Show as a snowman and if you shout at her avatar she will hear and respond. Unless she's fallen asleep.

—Serena

Fanfundery

Our virtual TAFF delegate, "Orange Mike" Lowrey, is channelling our Ayyylien mascot from Milwaukee. We look forward to meeting him in person in the UK on some future occasion.

A Second Chance

The gremlins interrupted the Life Drawing workshop, so if you're interested in an incredibly informal weekly drawing group then track down cDave and he'll give you a Discord invite.

—cDave

How to See the Programme

There are two ways to get into the programme items that you want to see.

If you're starting from the convention's Gather space, you can go to the item's

programme room at the right time, and 'interact' with it by pressing X.

If you're not in the Gather space, you can go directly to the programme platform at *programme.confusion2021.uk.* This will be updated at some point each morning with a list of the coming events for the day.

Remember, if you can't attend an item, you will be able to go back and view recordings on the 'Holodeck' (access it via the programme platform or in Gather from 21 Forward). Once the Holodeck is up and running, recordings will be available a few hours after items finish.

Unpaid Commercial Announcement

NewCon Press would usually be in the Dealers' Room selling books to customers without any shipping charges. This year, that's impossible, so instead we are slashing UK shipping prices on the website for the duration of the convention. P&P is now just 75p per paperback (instead of £2) and £1.75 per hardback (normally £3.80), on all books to be shipped within the UK. Prices will return to normal on Monday evening (April 5th). Happy Easter! *www.newconpress.co.uk*

What's That Rustling Sound?

The Arboretum has become the favoured spot for con members to go when they don't feel like talking. Turns out you can hide in the bushes with your camera and mic off while you're managing something in another browser window, figuring out what you're supposed to be doing, or engaging in some al fresco... *[That's quite enough of that —Ed]*

Warm Avatar Count

215 people have now signed into the convention Discord and accepted the Code of Conduct.

Party Plug

Stow Shirts' party will be in the Party Room at 4pm today. There will be door prizes! There will be shenanigans! We will definitely not try to sell you a T-shirt. Two of those three statements are true.

—Alison Scott

The Wood Between the Worlds

Some of you may not have discovered that these mysterious objects scattered around the Gather space are actually teleporters. Step into one of them and it will take you to the hyperspace portal room, with convenient shortcuts to all areas of the convention.

Health & Fitness

You should clean your keyboard at least once per day, and make sure to get in your ten thousand daily taps of the arrow keys.

Programme Update

Due to problems with the streaming service, this morning's programme items are taking place as scheduled but can't be streamed live. They are being recorded, and will be available in the Holodeck later.

Whim Sickle

We asked Sue Mason for some whimsical fillos, but there appears to have been a slight communication breakdown.

Superfluous Technology

Lensed Members, the informal group for SF fans with VR headsets, will have a meetup in AltSpace VR at 10pm Saturday. 2D clients are also available for the unlensed and lens-curious. Contact Shona/Prufrax in Discord (best) or Gather chat.

Dazed and Confused: This issue was produced with style by Mike Scott, with help from Alison Scott, Flick, John Coxon and Steve Davies. Masthead by Alison Scott with art by Sue Mason. The feedback session has been cancelled due to technical difficulties. *Still with clickable links*!

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newsletter@ confusion2021.uk

Relive Past Glories

Streaming items should be working again now. You will shortly be able to see our previous panels, including those that were recorded without being streamed, in the Holodeck at *programme.confusion2021.uk* or by visiting the Holodeck located off 21 Forward. The recordings will be available until 12 April, so you've got plenty of time to catch up.

Perfectly Legit Plug

Do you like the ConFusion spaceship graphics? Artist and musician Alex Storer followed the brief and came up with a beautiful design for us. Alex has his own art in the Art Show Gallery as well as some of his music, which is also for sale and can be heard as you move round his exhibit.

—Serena Culfeather

Call for Contestants

Four contestants are needed for the "Impossible!" quiz at 7pm tonight.

Hosted by David M Allan, the participants are challenged to see just how wrong they can get their answers to be.

Contact Green Room if you want to play.

The Doc Weir Award

Fans have been honouring the memory of Arthur "Doc" Weir since 1963 by voting for people who have made a contribution to fandom. Vote by noon on Monday by going to *https://confusion2021.uk/whats-on/doc-weir-award/*

A Great Item to Catch

Dan Abnett's GoH interview with Ed Fortune was full of quotable quotes, such as "Our pitch for it was *Wind in the Willows* meets *War of the Worlds* and it shouldn't have worked but it did."

He explained how he resurrected some of Marvel's least-loved properties: "I went from being one of the few people who knew who Rocket Raccoon was to seeing kids with Rocket Raccoon backpacks on the street."

Don't miss him on why games writing is like film directing, future nostalgia and the best compliment he ever got.

Don't Be a Zombie

If you're on programme, it's always worth turning off your video before leaving the stream at the end of the item. This prevents you from becoming a zombie panellist whose rotting corpse haunts future panels.

Celebrating Portmeirion

Our Fan Guest of Honour writes:

During Easter weekend in 1926, Clough Williams-Ellis opened his new resort, Portmeirion. It was much smaller then and had no booze license, so you had to bring your own.

Since then the Castle and its woods have been added, and more buildings built, and there is a preservation order on the entire peninsula in north-west Wales. Now owned by a charitable trust, the famous Prisoner Village celebrates its 95th birthday. Fun fact: it was also was the location for a *Doctor Who* episode: *The Masque of Mandragora*. It is a bit small for a normal-sized Eastercon, but a future SMOFcon could be held there.

Many happy returns, Portmeirion.

—Dave Lally

Any Old Iron

Following the technological problems that bedevilled the Bad Technology panel, we now hear that the Escape Room item has had to be postponed because nobody could get into the room.

—Peter Sullivan

How to Leave Places

When you're done in a particular part of the convention, such as the Art Show or a programme item, there's no need to quit or log out. Just close the tab in your browser.

How to Find Places Again

The fastest way back into Gather is to go to *https://gather.town/app* and choose Confusion from the list of recent gathers in the left hand column.

Yet another Gather tip

If you find you can't see or hear people in Gather, highlight the URL in your browser bar and press **Enter**. It resets you and lets you talk to people again.

—Caroline Mullan

Overheard at Eastercon

"I need a large, three dimensional armadillo please."

—Art Show Team

"We are all cows being bred for more AI-compatible udders."

—Charlie Stross

Top Tip for Night Owls

For those with slightly challenged laptops or other devices, could I recommend the joys of window-shopping undisturbed in the art show and Dealers' Room (to say nothing of Ops, the newsletter room, The Arboretum *et cetera*) at about midnight. I wonder why this never seems to be possible at an in-person Eastercon?

—Peter Wilkinson

It's Not All Parties All the Time

The area marked "party rooms" on the map contains reading rooms, signing rooms, the Green Room and, yes, a party room. Come to the Glasgow in 2024 party at 7pm.

We Have Questions

Please listen out for each moderator's instructions about the procedure for submitting questions to panel items. Remember that not all panels will have time for questions.

Glad Rags

Remember that today is Hall Costume Day! Send us your selfies of you looking amazing.

Tomorrow will be Easter Bonnet Day.

Eastercon Running is Fun, They Said

The bidding session for the 2022 and 2023 Eastercons will be at 11am tomorrow. There's a 2022 bid at *https://reclamation2022.co.uk/* and a 2024 bid at *twitter.com/eastercon2024*. We've heard nothing from 2023 except a twinkle in somebody's eye.

Pub Crawl Tonight

If you are joining this evening's virtual pub crawl at 8pm, Feòrag has asked us to remind you that you will need: the beer that you ordered in advance from Potbelly, a small glass for the beer, a large glass of water and, ideally, someone to help drink all that beer! Neutral tasting oatcakes or crackers are also a good idea.

Dazed and Confused: This issue was produced by Alison Scott and Flick, with help from Marianne Cain, Steven Cain and Mike Scott. Jan van't Ent has three working laser printers at home and is printing some APAs this weekend to keep in the ozone of things. Masthead by Alison Scott with art by Sue Mason. What do you get if you cross fun and whimsy? Fonzie! Ayyyyy! *Yet more clickable links*!

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Eastercon 2022

The Business Meeting took place on Zoom and the membership voted for Reclamation to be the Eastercon for 2022 by an overwhelming majority.

Phil Dyson is the chair of the convention and the guests of honour are:

- Zen Cho
- Mary Robinette Kowal
- Philip Reeve
- Nicholas Whyte

The venue is not confirmed but the committee are currently negotiating with a site in the south of England.

Find out more at *https://reclamation2022.co.uk/*

Many thanks to Vince Docherty for taking on the responsibility of chairing this challenging bidding session.

Pay it Forward!

Reclamation is now open for registrations on its website and in the ConFusion Dealers Room on Gather!

Adult attending: £70

Adult low income: £40

Child (5–17): £25

Infant (0–4): Free

Apocryphal: £2

Supporting: £35

Eastercon 2023

As before, the bidding session took place on Zoom and was the first contested bid for many years.

Vanessa May presented a bid for the Birmingham Metropole, to be called Persistence. Alison Scott presented an unnamed bid with a request for everyone to vote for Hold Over Funds.

In the event, the result was 69% for Hold Over, 16% for Persistence, 10% for Alison to actually run her unnamed Eastercon and 4% for Abstain.

This was one of the more exciting business meetings in recent years, and I think I've chaired more than anyone else. Congratulations to both the bidders.

—Steve Davies

2024 Early Warning

A bid for Eastercon 2024 is being chaired by Pat McMurray and Farah Mendlesohn, and the committee are David Cooper, Fiona Scarlett, Jude Roberts, and John Coxon.

The bid session to seat/hold over for 2024 will be next year. Find out more at *https://fb.me/Eastercon2024* or *https://twitter.com/Eastercon2024*.

I Couldn't Eat A Whole One

"If you take away nothing else from this, know that airships are not vegan."

*—Nick Bradbeer (*The 36 Years When Airships Were the Future*)*

All Shall Have Prizes

The ceremony for the BSFA Awards for works produced in 2020, will be a live YouTube broadcast from here: *https://youtu.be/FpE1PEw0rH0* . This will occur at 5pm on Sunday the 4th of April.

You are cordially invited to attend our ceremony and to celebrate with all our brilliant nominees and winners.

You may also wish to join the BSFA Discord channel, along with other attendees. *https://discord.gg/9a6XS5hygh*

We Have Kittens!

The Fan Fund Auction tonight has a vast range of unique, weird and special items that you are definitely going to have to own. You can see them in advance by looking at our catalogue. We'll message in Gather/Discord when it's available. Come along tonight at 7pm to bid.

Got A Question?

The committee tell us that the unexpectedly complex problem of asking questions in programme items has been solved. You need to log into a separate application called Slido. Go to *https://app.sli.do/event/ge2hs0uw* and login with your name and email address, and using the password 'Day3' (or 'Day4' if you're reading this on Monday). Select the room in which the event is being held and ask your question.

Note that your question must be no more than 160 characters in length and must include a question mark.

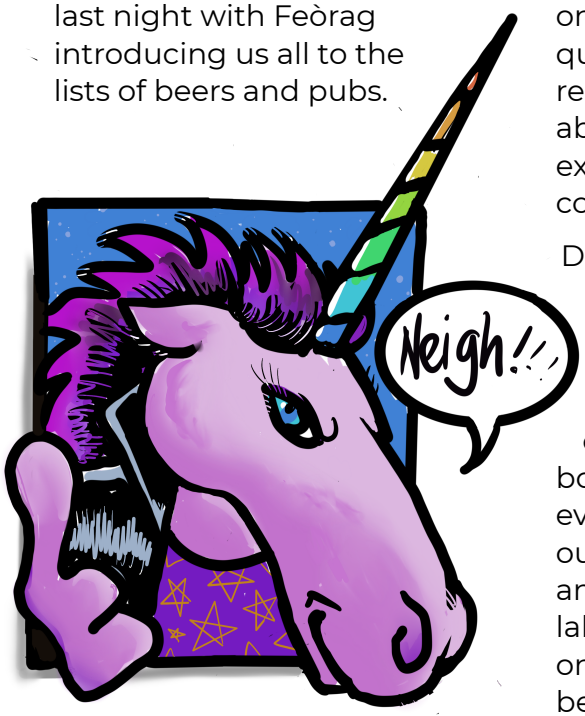
Overheard

"Eastercon: I've never taken the dog to a book launch before and will never do so again. Sorry about that!"

—Liz Williams

Crawling to the Cantina

The pub crawl and beer tasting began in 21 Forward last night with Feòrag introducing us all to the lists of beers and pubs.



We started with A Piggin' IPA, which was lovely, and the intended end was And Now For Something Piggin' Different, but your correspondent was pretty drunk by beer #5 and so that one's still in his fridge.

The event moved from 21 Forward when the wise and lovely John Dodd informed us that he had built all our pubs at the other end of the spaceship, and so we were able to properly replicate the "pub crawl" aspect as well as the "beer tasting".

The GatherTown space worked wonderfully for the event, with private tables and bar space creating the authentic feeling of being in an Eastercon bar. If you missed it, simply time travel to 7pm yesterday.

—John "surely under age" Coxon

Feedback Session

The Feedback Session took place this morning and took up the full allocated hour for once. The committee took questions and provided responses to questions about the technical issues experienced early in the convention.

Details will be available on the Holodeck.

Topographic Oceans

Dotted around the convention are map boards that show you where everything is. It was pointed out that the reading rooms and signing rooms weren't labelled on them. The map on the displays has now been updated to correct this.

A La Recherche Du Temps Perdu

Don't forget that recorded items are now going up in the Holodeck. If you want to know what the arguments in the bidding session were all about, do go and watch the repeat.

LARP Sign-up

Two live action gaming events take place tonight, and have limited places.

"Meet At The Tavern," a classic quest, is at 6pm.

"The Dark Room" is a live action text adventure taking place at 9pm. For technical reasons, sign-up for this closes at 4:30pm.

Sign-up sheets for both can be found at the desk in the Hangar.

Art Show Sales

The interactive art show displays are fantastic, but a lot of people don't realise how to buy artwork. In the lobby of the Art Show, there is a row of computer terminals, which take you into the sales site. You can also enter the sales site directly at *https://artshow.confusion2021.uk/*.

Please check it out and support our lovely artists.

Scavengers Assemble!

Reclamation 2022 are donating a free membership for the winner of the Confusion 2021 Scavenger Hunt.

Full details will be coming to all social media channels on Sunday afternoon.

Dazed and Confused: This issue was produced by Steve Davies, with help from John Coxon, Alison Scott, Mike Scott, Steven Cain, John Dodd, Diana ben-Aaron and Flick. Masthead by Alison Scott with art by Sue Mason. This newsletter can now believe 6 impossible things before breakfast. *Now with clickable links*!

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Eastercon 2022

The 2022 Eastercon will be called Reclamation and the intention is to return Eastercon back to an in-person event if possible. It will run 15–18 April 2022. The guests of honour are Mary Robinette Kowal, Zen Cho, Philip Reeve and Nicholas Whyte.

www.reclamation2022.co.uk

Memberships are now available from the website. The committee are considering all options for the convention: whether it needs to be online-only, in-person or a hybrid event. They are watching other conventions closely to find the best possible solutions for hybrid and virtual events.

The committee consists of Phil Dyson (chair); Phil Nanson (treasurer); Ali Baker and Virginia Preston (programme); Clare Boothby (secretary); James Shield (registration); and Emma Kalson (communications).

For information, contact *chair@reclamation2022.co.uk* or follow the con on social media: @reclamation2022 on Facebook and Twitter, @reclamation_2022 on Instagram.

—Reclamation 2022

How to Get Started with the Scavenger Hunt

Before the convention, ConFusion had several six-word lightning stories put together, and have hidden them in their individual words in the dealers hall. These are in the form of invisible tiles that can only be found by walking into dealers and fan tables. When you walk over the tile, you'll see the word flash up at the bottom of your screen.

As a starting clue, one of the words is in the Reclamation 2022 stand in the Dealers' Hall. When you have enough words to make a six-word story of your own, email *dealers@confusion2021.uk* with your story and "Scavenger Hunt" in the title of your email to them. The entries will be mixed and selected randomly with the prize as a membership to Reclamation 2022, and the winner to be announced after the convention.

Octothorpe

The Octothorpe recording scheduled for tomorrow morning is cancelled due to John having an unavoidable panel clash. We'll announce a rescheduled event on our Twitter/Facebook soon!

—John, Alison, and Liz

BSFA Awards

The BSFA Award winners were announced this afternoon, and the winners were as follows.

- **Short fiction:** "Infinite Tea in the Demara Cafe" by Ida Keogh.
- **Non-fiction:** *It's the End of the World: But What Are We Really Afraid Of?* by Adam Roberts.
- **Artwork:** "Shipbuilding Over the Clyde" by Iain Clark.
- **Novel:** *The City We Became* by N. K. Jemisin.

Happy Daze congratulates all the winners on their awards, and all the members of the community who were nominated. It was a strong slate this year.

Mini-Masterclass

On Monday afternoon at 2pm, there will be a mini-masterclass on SF Criticism, facilitated by Graham Sleight on behalf of the SF Foundation. The session will run for 60 minutes.

This event requires sign-up in advance, and there are two short pieces of advanced reading, the details of which are within the sign up form, which can be accessed here: *guide.confusion2021.uk/signup*

—Anne-Louise Fortune

Lally Talks Relics

In his GoH interview, Dave Lally revealed how he came to be present at his own birth, how he made some of the first tours of sites for the *Wicker Man* film and came into possession of *Wicker Man* relics, and what he's doing to virtually map Luxembourg ahead of next year's Eurocon.

—Diana

<pointless maths>

We don't know exactly how many people voted in the Eastercon 2023 vote [*we weren't listening—Ed*] but mathematics fan Andrew January writes:

Given splitting *X* votes and rounding down to an integer percentage, the potential values of *X* are 49, 67, 68, 75, 91, 97, 98, 99, 110, 116, 117, 118 and 120.

119 doesn't exist. So I can tell you if someone didn't vote then at least 2 people didn't vote. </pointless maths>

Are There Enough Mushrooms?

We've had many complaints that your convention breakfasts are not sufficiently supplied with mushrooms [*mine have been—Ed*]. We can exclusively announce a new streaming partnership with Tesco, supplying plenty of mushrooms at reasonable cost.

Sea Shanty

The Sea Shanty workshop wrote a sea shanty! Sing it to the tune of "South Australia".

At Eastercon I thought I saw
Heave away, haul away
All the fans from days of yore
For we're bound for British fandom

Heave away you Ess Eff fans
Heave away, haul away
Six feet apart and wash your hands
For we're bound for British fandom

As we walked out one morning fair
Heave away, haul away
'Twas there we took an SF dare
For we're bound for British fandom

Heave away you Ess Eff fans
Heave away, haul away
Six feet apart and wash your hands
For we're bound for British fandom

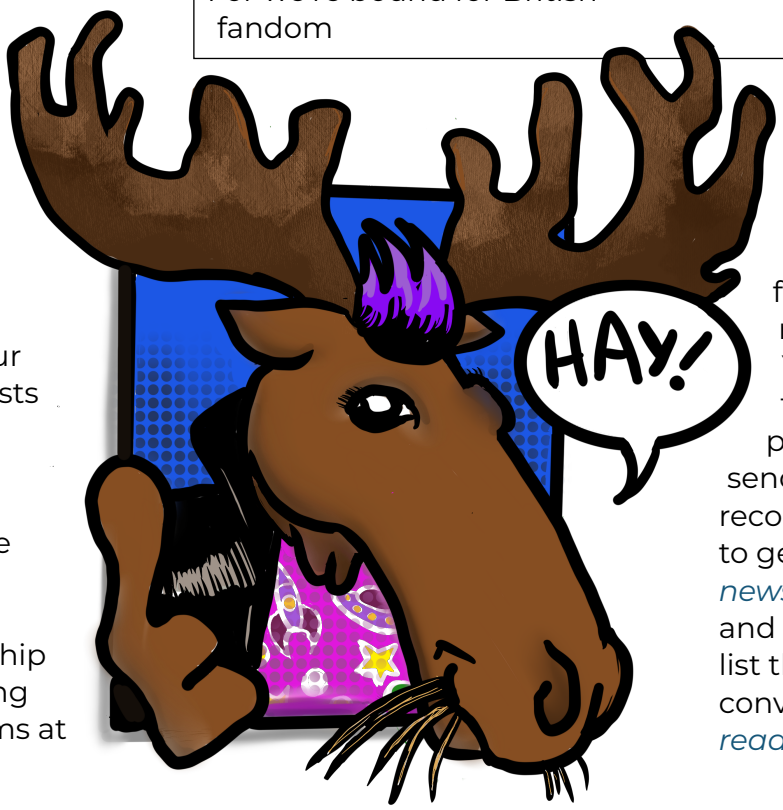
We said we'd watch all Doctor Who
Heave away, haul away
Seasons old and almost new
For we're bound for British fandom

Heave away you Ess Eff fans
Heave away, haul away
Six feet apart and wash your hands
For we're bound for British fandom

We watched the screen all round the clock
Heave away, haul away
Three months it took... now do not mock.
For we're bound for British fandom

Heave away you Ess Eff fans
Heave away, haul away
Six feet apart and wash your hands
For we're bound for British fandom

—words by Gillian Polack and Jacey Bedford



Reading Lists

Thanks to the panels Dominion: Bridging Worlds and Beyond and Working Class Heroes for sharing their reading recommendation lists. You can read them on the website. Other panels, if you have time to send in your recommendations, we'd love to get them – send emails to *newsletter@confusion2021.uk* and we'll update the reading list through the rest of the convention. *bit.ly/confusion-reading-list*

Dazed and Confused: This issue was produced by John Coxon, with help from Steve Davies, Jan van't Ent, Mike Scott, Flick, Liz Batty, and Alison Scott. Masthead by Alison Scott with art by Sue Mason. We'll be in the bar when the tonguing is done. And seriously, go find that Tardis. *Now with clickable links*!

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Thanks to Volunteers!

Many thanks to all of our volunteers, without whom there would have been no convention. Please be sure that your team knows the hours you have worked, so that you can get your rewards of badges (for any shift) and T-shirts (for 10 hours). Ask about discounts with any dealer you buy from; quite a few are giving volunteer discounts.

A Wrinkle in Time

Canberra-based author Gillian Polack has finally bent time and space so far that she has discovered a time turner. On Saturday, or Sunday if you're Gillian, she moderated Tom Robinson's paper on "Narrating the Anthropocene" both starting and finishing at 2am, because it was the night when Australia goes back onto standard time from daylight saving time.

Gather.News

Have you been enjoying the Gather this weekend? Would you like to find out what it was like to build a space like this, and the tips and tricks we learnt along the way? Come along to Reading 2 at 3pm for a chat about Gather civil engineering.

—Melissa Taylor

Last Orders Please

Remember that the Dealers' Room will be closing at 4pm today. The Art Show will now be remaining open until Friday. The rest of the convention will remain open in Gather until 2am. The Dead Dog party is in the Cantina (the bar at the south end of the Gather space) from 6pm.

Another Chance to Catch Up

As you probably know, we had some tech problems over the last couple of days, especially on Friday. Some of the Academic Track speakers have very kindly recorded their talks for us to view.

Francis Gene-Rowe has recorded their paper, "Just Because You're Paranoid Doesn't Mean You Can't Have Fun: Generative Play in Dystopian Times". The link is here: *bit.ly/3wuU4mY*.

Maciej Matuszewski's talk "String Theory Made Easy", can be viewed via this link: *bit.ly/2OlWJhH*

—Anne-Louise Fortune

Selfie of the Day

Here's Farah Mendlesohn, co-chair of the newly announced 2024 Eastercon bid, in her Eastercon/ Passover bonnet.

Weather Report

In order to provide a more accurate facsimile of the traditional Eastercon experience, as seen at Eastercons in Bradford, Harrogate, Manchester and Heathrow, we have arranged for snow across much of the country today. You're welcome.

Fanfic Talk

A transcript of Hester Parr's Sunday evening Academic Track talk about Fanfic can be found on An Archive of Our Own, here: *archiveofourown.org/works/30468888*.

—Anne-Louise Fortune

Academic Track

Further details of most of the items on the Academic Track can be found in a handy PDF, available here: *bit.ly/confusion-academic-track*.

—Anne-Louise Fortune

It's Getting Crowded

As of this morning, 244 people have signed into the convention Discord and accepted the Code of Conduct.

New Reading

John Robertson, host of *The Dark Room*, Twitch streamer and children's book author, will be reading from *The Little Town of Marrowville* at 3pm in Reading Room 1. See you there!

Normal Service Has Not Been Resumed

We're still trying and failing to get Sue to draw us something whimsical. Here's her Whimsycamore.

Homework for 2022

We have put more recommendations on the big list of reading recommendations (*bit.ly/confusion-reading-list*), including some from the panel that John Coxon moderated about games that he insisted we include *[true dat—John]*. Please keep sending in your reading lists for inclusion!

Fan Funds Auction

Thank you to everyone who came to the Fan Funds Auction, especially those of you who bid on and bought items. We have made a lot of money! At least £1,350, but I think it will be more when the dust settles.

Particular thanks need to go to the programme and tech teams, who worked tirelessly to get the event working on the con platform. It worked really well in the end.

Finally, thanks to everyone who donated items. We had far more than we could sell, and had to triage before we printed the catalogue, and then two hours of auctioning only got us through ⅔ of the items we selected. If we didn't sell your item, we'll be talking to you over the next few days to work out what to do next. We are so very grateful for your generosity.

—Alison Scott

Post-Con Fun

If you have too much spare time on your hands once the con is over, remember that recordings are available on the Holodeck for the next week.

If you have too much spare money on your hands, the Art Show will now be open until Friday, so you can still buy things.

Scavenger Hunt

Entries for the Scavenger Hunt need to be sent to *dealers@confusion2021.uk* by 3pm. The winners will be announced in the closing ceremony.

Intrepid Explorers

Before the Gather space goes down at the end of the con, have you discovered:

- The hidden room in the fountain?
- The inside of the X-Wing?
- The secret maze in the walls of the Cantina?
- The Tardis?
- The convention command centre?
- The Holodeck?

Obligatory Moose Mention

Moose are good swimmers and will dive up to six metres in search of seaweed to eat, so one of the few predators that can take down an adult moose is the killer whale.

Future Cons

As another Eastercon draws to a close, we hope we'll see you all in the flesh next year at Reclamation. In the meantime, we understand that Novacon are still planning to run a real-world con in Nottingham during November. There are also a couple of online-only cons in the next few months. More information will be available on Facebook, on the various fannish Discord servers (ask us in the bar) and in publications such as *Ansible* (*www.ansible.uk*).

Dazed and Confused: This issue was produced by Mike Scott, with help from Flick, Alison Scott, Steve Davies, Jan van't Ent, John Coxon and Diana ben-Aaron. Masthead by Alison Scott with art by Sue Mason. The convention is virtually finished. *Our links are still clickable*!